



**NIGHT TO REMEMBER**  
**Evening of the Arts**  
**...8**

# Chieftain **50** YEARS

VOLUME 54, NUMBER 5

ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MARCH 24, 2025



# Lady Indians win regional!

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VIEWPOINT  
DONNA THOMAS  
Chieftain Adviser

It's never too late  
for these tips

1. The Freshman 15 does exist. So does the Freshman 20. Watch how many starches and processed foods you are eating.
2. Pizza. See No. 1.
3. If it's take out a loan or quit school, take out a loan.
4. If you can live harmoniously with someone in a 20x20 foot space, you can do anything.
5. Flip-flops. Wear them in the dorm shower. Always.
6. Always attend the "real class" and use the internet one for review.
7. If you are not a morning person, don't schedule classes for 8 a.m. You will not go.
8. Get involved. All work and no "productive" socializing is boring.
9. Too much socializing = bad grades. Everything in moderation.
10. If you are feeling overwhelmed, are having problems sleeping or have gone through a breakup, visit your college's counseling center. If you are feeling suicidal at any point, call your college's crisis center number of call 911 immediately.
11. There are a lot of activities at the college. Take advantage of them.
12. Take advantage of free tutoring.
13. Sit near the front of the class.
14. Attend the whole class. Even if you feel like you will just die if you sit there any longer. Even if you feel your brain start to ooze out the side of your ear. Because instructors sometimes give really important information at the end of class.
15. Recopy your notes after class. Or, if you've typed them, do a quick read-through after class.
16. Don't do anything stupid, it will go down on your permanent record. Seriously. At every college you apply to after this one.
17. Register for classes as early as possible.
18. The student bookstore (online and store) can have great student discounts.
19. Use the college's career resource center - not just when you are going to graduate, but when you are figuring out what you want to do with your life. It's a free service.
20. If you have a tendency to be messy, your roommate may be compulsively neat.
21. You may feel like your parents are hovering too much. Look at it this way. They've been taking care of you since you were a baby. That doesn't just stop. Cut them some slack.
22. Use flashcards to quiz yourself when you study.
23. You may not know what to do for a major. It's okay. There are people much older than you that still aren't sure what they want to do with their lives. That's okay. See your academic adviser for help. Pay attention to which classes you really look forward to - that can be a clue as to what you might want to major in.

- Adapted from *Psychology Today*,  
Stephanie A. Serkis, Ph.D., August 23,  
2010

OPINION  
POLL

“  
What  
student  
clubs are  
you a  
member  
of  
at ICC?  
”

Alea Hudson  
Chieftain Staff

“Indian Delegation,  
SGA (Monroe County  
representative), Trading  
Post, All-American  
Band, Indianette, Bas-  
ketball Pep Band,  
BSU, Mirror staff,  
Fashion Tribe.” -  
Shelby Sullivan,  
Hamilton, freshman

“SGA, Indian Delegation,  
Orientation  
Leader, work study in  
admissions, assist in  
Community Relations.” - Will Hathcote, Amory,  
freshman

“RA, PEAK Club,  
Fashion Tribe, Phi  
Theta Kappa, Sigma  
Kappa Delta, Humanities Club.” - Jaycee  
Vinson, Red Bay, Ala.,  
sophomore

“SGA, Orientation  
Leader, BSU, PTK,  
Honors College, Student  
Activities Board.” - Sydney Palmer,  
Saltillo, freshman

“Indians softball  
team, PTK, SKD.” - Joryie  
McKnight, Pontotoc,  
sophomore

“Indians tennis team,  
PTK, Honors College.” - Sawyer  
Ritchie, Pontotoc,  
freshman

“Women of Excellence.” - Alyssa  
Browning, Olive  
Branch, freshman

“Indian Delegate,  
BSU, Fashion Tribe,  
PTK officer, Honors  
College, Orientation  
Leader.” - Landon  
Long, Pontotoc, freshman

“Trading Post representative,  
Student Activities work study,  
Orientation Leader,  
Fashion Tribe, PTK,  
SKD, SGA treasurer.” - Callie  
Kelton, Golden, sophomore

“All American Band,  
Color Guard, Trading  
Post representative,  
Honors College, PTK,  
Orientation Leader,  
STEM Club, Instructional  
Support Leader.” - Lauren Lee,  
Olive Branch, sophomore

VIEWPOINT  
SHARLEE SHUMPERT  
Chieftain Staff

Create to Succeed

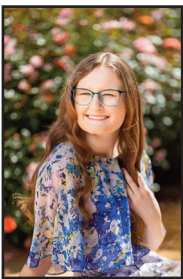
Weekly assignments, discussion posts, quizzes, tests, student functions, club meetings, ball games - the number of things students are expected to juggle is endless. Feelings of overwhelming, frazzled brains and tired eyes may be common, but thankfully, there are many ways to combat college burnout. Choosing a creative hobby can be an excellent way to break up the monotony of schoolwork, and these hobbies do not have to be complicated.

The health benefits of creativity are plentiful. Forbes.com explains, “It might sound too good to be true, but simply engaging in creative behaviors (even just coloring in those trendy adult coloring books) improves brain function, mental health and physical health.” Being creative provides an outlet for emotion and an avenue for expression, making it a powerful tool for students who need to decompress.

Creative hobbies can be surprisingly simple; journaling in a notebook, taking pictures with a phone, collecting interesting rocks, decorating something with stickers, curating a favorite playlist - incorporating creativity into daily life does not always look like taking up intensive time-consuming skills. While some students may choose to take up hobbies such as guitar and sketching, others may find these more complex hobbies overwhelming. That's why it is important to remember that creativity comes in many forms. The benefits of being creative are not limited to those with “serious” hobbies.

Another common misconception about creativity is that it must be “used for something.” Society often pressures people into believing that if something cannot be monetized or done competitively, it is not worth doing. This could not be further from the truth! Creative hobbies are allowed to be just that - hobbies. Students should embrace creativity without the expectation that they must turn their hobby into a marketable skill.

Managing work-life balance is extremely important, especially since the invention of the Internet means students have nearly constant access to schoolwork and grades. Choosing to add a little creativity into everyday routine is a wonderful form of self-care, and the variety of activities available means there is a way for everyone to harness the power of creativity to help them succeed.



Chieftain staff  
needed  
for fall 2025!  
To apply, email  
dsthomas@iccms.edu

Chieftain 50

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The Chieftain is available online only and is posted three times each semester.

Views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the faculty and administration.

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Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271, or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.



## Faculty SPOTLIGHT

### MELISSA GRIFFITH

Instructor, Social Science

**FAMILY:** Married to Mark Griffith (They were elementary school sweethearts and good friends until they graduated from high school together. One week later, they started dating and 5 1/2 years later, they married); son, Gray, 26, archeologist, wife, Kathryn; daughter, Maclaine, grad school at Ole Miss, and fiancé Luke. Both children met their spouse/spouse-to-be at ICC.)

**EDUCATION:** Graduate of Amory High School, Itawamba Community College (A.A.S.), Mississippi State University (B.S., M.S.), Additional coursework, Delta State University, University of Alabama-Birmingham

#### WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY TEACH OR HAVE TAUGHT:

Introduction to Sociology, Marriage and Family.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Has taught in the Early Childhood program at the Tupelo Campus, Child Development, Family Dynamics, Psychology, Sociology and on the secondary level at Coffeeville High School, Houlka High School and Pontotoc High School



#### POSITIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING:

"Interacting with students, watching the growth some exhibit from the beginning of the semester to the conclusion of it and sharing knowledge with them. Seeing those moments when they get what you're talking about. I'm fortunate to teach subjects that are relatable and 'real life,' I truly appreciate when students share that the information they received helped them, whether in a big or small way. Just knowing that their quality of life improved because of something they learned is a huge part of what being an educator is about."

#### NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF TEACHING:

"I'm more of an optimist than pessimist, so I try to focus on the positive. However, for me, a negative aspect of teaching is to see a fully capable, intelligent student not apply their talents and abilities God has given them. From time to time, there are students who are satisfied with just skimming by and don't see the importance of doing their absolute best. Also, in my classes, I incorporate aspects to prepare young adults for the real world, which is only going to improve their life after graduation. I do hold students accountable, which is something not everyone is accustomed to."

#### ADVICE TO STUDENTS:

"I would advise them to avoid just sitting in their dorm room! Socialization is a huge part of the college experience, and I know everyone handles it differently. However, meeting new people is a part of every stage of life and one that helps us to adjust to new environments."

#### A FUN FACT TO KNOW ABOUT THE TEACHER/FACULTY MEMBER:

"I love thrifting. You never know what you will find, and every junk/antique store is different. Some of my favorite 'hauls' have included items such as McCarty and Peter's Pottery. I also enjoy riding my bike on the Tanglefoot Trail from Houston to New Albany."

SHELBY FRANKS  
Chieftain Staff



Braidon Holcombe and Natalie Ryals

## ICC students elect Holcombe, Ryals Mr., Miss ICC

#### Staff Reports

Braidon Holcombe of Vina, Ala. and Natalie Ryals of Kosciusko have been elected Mr. and Miss Itawamba Community College for 2024-25.

Ryals, who is a graduate of Kosciusko High School, is president of the Student Government Association, Mirror (yearbook) editor, Fashion Tribe executive, game day crew photographer, Baptist Student Union lead team and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Her other activities include intramural sports at ICC and member of the First Baptist Church of Kosciusko. She plans to transfer to Mississippi State University to work toward her degree in Communications. Her parents

are Tracey and Brad Ryals.

A mechanical engineering major at ICC, Holcombe is a member of the Indian Delegation (vice president, 2024-25), Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta and STEM Club; Orientation Leader, Baptist Student Union lead team; Fashion Tribe executive and Instructional Support tutor. His other activities include DNOW volunteer. Holcombe plans to transfer to Mississippi State University where he will major in Industrial Technology: Maintenance and Manufacturing. He is the son of Misty and Clint Holcombe.

Holcombe and Ryals will be featured in the 2025 student yearbook, the *Mirror*.

## ICC offers significant scholarship opportunity

#### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College is adding a significant scholarship opportunity beginning in the fall of 2025.

The Impact Scholarship program will support students who have financial hardship and help them achieve their educational goals and build a brighter future for themselves and their communities, according to Michael Upton, director of Advancement.

"These scholarships are given by an anonymous donor who has experienced the results of a life focused on accepting the love of Jesus and giving forgiveness to others," Upton said. "They want to both help future ICC students as well as recognize the tremendous impact that teachers have on their students' lives."

In addition, the initiative fosters local talent and empowers individuals to contribute to the economic and social well-being of Northeast Mississippi.

"The Impact Scholarship program fosters a culture of gratitude and appreciation by requiring students to write an essay about a teacher who significantly impacted their lives, which strengthens the bond between the recipients and educators and highlights the importance of mentorship and guidance in the learning process," Upton noted.

Students who are interested in applying for the Impact Scholarship should access the application online at <https://www.iccms.edu/Scholarships>.

The deadline for the Impact opportunity as well as all scholarships offered by the ICC Foundation, Inc. is Apr. 1. These scholarships are established and funded for ICC students by individuals, businesses, industries or organizations. A complete description of each opportunity along with the Foundation scholarship application is available at the following location: <https://www.iccms.edu/Scholarships>.

## March 1 fire damages Fulton administration building

#### Staff Reports

A March 1 fire started in the break room of the Fulton Campus Administration Building at approximately 3 p.m.

According to ICC President, Dr. Jay Allen, the fire damage was minimal, but the building experienced significant smoke damage.

"We are incredibly grateful for the quick response of our local fire departments as well as the dedicated efforts of our Physical Plant and TIS teams, who worked diligently to ensure the situation was contained and that disruptions are as minimized as possible. The dedication, teamwork and resilience demonstrated by our employees and emergency responders have been truly remarkable. It is in times like these that the strength of our ICC community shines the brightest."



Due to the building being offline for the next approximately two months, several Fulton offices have been temporarily relocated. They include Business office, Human Resources and Vice President of Instructional Services -

John S. Crubaugh Education Building, first floor; Mental Health Services - Housing office, David C. Cole Student Services Building; and Office of the President, David C. Cole Student Services Building second floor.



## College CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SPRING 2025

- Mar. 24** Registration for currently-enrolled Honor College begins at 2 p.m., and Allied Health students at 3 p.m.
- Mar. 25** Registration for currently-enrolled sophomores who have completed 24 or more hours begins at 7:30 a.m.
- Mar. 27** Registration for currently-enrolled freshmen begins at 7:30 a.m.
- Apr. 2** Last day to drop classes with a 'W' through excessive absences or withdrawal from classes for eLearning full-term classes
- Apr. 9** Honors (24+ ACT) orientation
- Apr. 11** Orientation - Fulton Campus
- Apr. 14** First day of class for eLearning second four-week classes  
First day of registration for readmission students and transfer students
- Apr. 18** Good Friday holiday for students, employees
- Apr. 21** Good Monday holiday for students, employees
- Apr. 23** Last day to drop classes with a 'W' through excessive absences or withdrawal from classes for eLearning second eight-week classes
- Apr. 25** Orientation begins at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., Fulton Campus  
Last day to drop classes with a 'W' through excessive absences or withdrawal from classes for traditional full-term day/night and traditional second eight-week classes
- Apr. 28** Faculty and staff Awards of Distinction and Retirement ceremony, 2 p.m.  
Student Awards of Distinction ceremony, 2 p.m.
- Apr. 28-  
May 2** Final exams for eLearning full-term classes
- Apr. 29-  
May 2** Registration continues through the Advising Center if faculty adviser is not available
- Apr. 30** Last day to drop classes with a 'W' through excessive absences or withdrawal from classes for eLearning second four-week classes
- May 5-8** Final exams for eLearning second eight-week and eLearning second four-week classes
- May 6-8** Final exams for traditional full-term day/night and traditional second eight-week classes
- May 15** Adult Education commencement ceremony
- May 16** Commencement ceremonies

**For more information  
and updates  
on the fall schedule, go to**

**ICC...  
YOU  
belong  
here!**



### Celebrating Arbor Day

**ICC's Forestry Technology program celebrated Arbor Day with the planting of three trees at the Fulton Campus. According to sponsor Emily Loden-Jones, they replaced those that have been removed because of weather damage or age.**

## SGA officers set for Fulton; Tupelo election Wednesday

**SYDNEY BARBER**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Student Government Association officers have been elected for the Fulton Campus during online voting last Wednesday.

The new officers are Shelby Sullivan, president; Sydney Palmer, vice president; Paris Fields, secretary; and Will Hathcote, treasurer.

Balloting will take place for the Tupelo Campus officers, Mar. 26 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. via myTribe.

In addition to the officers, seven representatives will be elected this fall in an online election. Requirements to run for the position are enrollment in at least 15 hours, keep and main-

tain a collegiate 2.5 grade point average, have a record of interest and activity in student life and organizations, unquestionable character, maintain 15 hours through the term of office and have no discipline record.

One representative from the following counties is elected is elected at both the Fulton and Tupelo campuses: Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc and two at-large.

"SGA elections are very important for students so that their voices can be heard. According to Ana Brooke Stephens, coordinator of Student Activities, "The purpose of SGA is to serve as the supreme student instrument for

effecting the fulfillment of the objectives of the Preamble of the Constitution: to encourage enthusiastic, wholesome school spirit; to provide appropriate machinery for student self-government; to establish, maintain and support the highest standards of ethical conduct and individual integrity among the student; to provide for the fullest cooperation with the community; to support the aims, traditions and purpose of the Council; and the community college in its large purposes of education."

For more information, contact [abstephens@iccms.edu](mailto:abstephens@iccms.edu) or [studentactivities@iccms.edu](mailto:studentactivities@iccms.edu).



**Members of the 2024-25 Indian Delegation participate in a retreat prior to the fall semester to build skills and bond through activities.**

## Application deadline today for Indian Delegation

**MATT MALLARD**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Just what is Indian Delegation?

It is the face of Itawamba Community College and a student organization that serves as its goodwill ambassadors.

The organization is open to students from all locations, but the two main groups are Fulton Campus and Tupelo Campus/Belden Center.

According to Michael Holloway, director of Recruitment and Orientation, who is its sponsor, "The groups may swap from different locations at times." There are 40 delegates, 30 primarily on the Fulton Campus, and 10 on the Tupelo Campus.

Delegates have numerous responsibilities, including a one-hour class that meets weekly, work one office hour per week, give college tours, work college events and high school visits.

The selection process includes completion of an online application and interview. Holloway said that the process also involves submitting a letter of recommendation, a current photo and a one-

minute video. The application deadline is today (Mar. 24). Interviews are scheduled for Apr. 1 at Fulton and Apr. 2 at Tupelo.

The qualifications include maintaining a 2.5 GPA and meeting the minimum requirements regarding the number of tours and events. The delegates meet at different times each semester. The fall semester schedule includes Friday mornings from 9-10 a.m., and the spring semester, Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Holloway said that he encourages students from the Belden Center to apply.

Advantages of membership include learning and growing in professionalism, public relations, public speaking and time management. However, Holloway noted that the organization is time consuming and takes a lot of commitment.

"I would definitely encourage them (students) to take the opportunity (to be a member). They will be around professionals and mentors to encourage them to be better when they walk out the door."



## Meeting Room

### CLUB NEWS & CALENDAR

#### PROFESSIONAL/SCHOLARLY

Alpha Delta Nu	alphadeltanu@iccms.edu
Educators Rising	educatorsrising@iccms.edu
Humanities Club	humanitiesclub@iccms.edu
ICC Art Club	artclub@iccms.edu
ICC Honors College	honors@iccms.edu
MOSA	mosa@iccms.edu
Nurses Christian Fellowship	necf@iccms.edu
PEAK Club	peak@iccms.edu
Phi Theta Kappa	PTKFulton@iccms.edu
	PTKTupelo@iccms.edu
Sigma Kappa Delta	SKD@iccms.edu
Skills USA	skillsusa@iccms.edu
STEM Club	stemclub@iccms.edu
SOTA (Occupational Ther.)	sota@iccms.edu
The Business Council	council@iccms.edu
The Global Experience	travel@iccms.edu

#### COLLEGE-BASED

Archery Club	archery@iccms.edu
Bass Club	bassclub@iccms.edu
Chieftain (Newspaper)	chieftain@iccms.edu
Disc Golf Club	discgolf@iccms.edu
eSports Club	esports@iccms.edu
Fashion Tribe	fashiontribe@iccms.edu
Indian Delegation	delegate@iccms.edu
MANUP	manup@iccms.edu
Mirror (Yearbook)	mirror@iccms.edu
Orientation Leaders	orientation@iccms.edu
Student Activities Board	SAB@iccms.edu
Student Government Assn.	SGAFulton@iccms.edu
	SGATupelo@iccms.edu

#### FINE ARTS PERFORMING

All-American Band	band@iccms.edu
CenterStage	centerstage@iccms.edu
Choir and Chamber Singers	choir@iccms.edu
Color Guard	colorguard@iccms.edu
Concert Ensembles	band@iccms.edu
Film Club	filmclub@iccms.edu
Indianettes	indianettes@iccms.edu
Jazz Ensemble	jazz@iccms.edu
Pom Squad	pomsquad@iccms.edu
Steel Drum Band	band@iccms.edu
Theatre Productions	theatre@iccms.edu
Woodwind Ensembles	woodwinds@iccms.edu

#### RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Baptist Student Union	bsu@iccms.edu
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	FCA@iccms.edu
Nurses Christian Fellowship	NCF@iccms.edu
Wesley Foundation	wesley@iccms.edu

**For more information  
on ICC clubs  
and organizations,  
[www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu).**



**Members of the cast of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' rehearse for this week's production. - Photos by Sharlee Shumpert, Chieftain staff**

## 'Midsummer Night's Dream on stage this week

#### Staff Reports

The curtain will open for "A Midsummer Night's Dream, Wednesday and Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. on the Fulton Campus.

Although the deadline has passed for ticket purchase for the dinner theatre, individuals can buy \$10 tickets for the show only either in advance or at the door.

According to director Dr. Laurie McBride, "The production is a fun 1970s infused version of Shakespeare's romantic comedy, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' with a twist. It focuses on runaway lovers who get mixed up thanks to some magical potions. Disco lights, 1970s music and light sabers add to the experience."

Members of the cast include Stephanie Riddle (Snug/Fairy), Kylie Long (Quince), Khali Dilworth (Helena/Bottom), Emily Hudson (Starling and stage manager), Tierney Johnson (Hermia), Kilee Webster (Philostrate/Robin Goodfellow), Jalynn Black (Egeus/Snout/Fairy), Lela Waites (Lysander), Cheridy Brown (Flute/Fairy), Arabella Castleman



(Hippolyta/Titania), Buddy Ferguson (Theseus) and Eli Owens (Demetrius/Oberion). Additional crew members are Olivia Youngblood, publicity manager; Kassandra Ramirez, light operator; Zoey

Tether, sound operator; and Paula Elaine Garcia, prop manager.

For more information, email [ismcbrideiccms.edu](mailto:ismcbrideiccms.edu) or to purchase tickets, [www.iccms.edu/theatre](http://www.iccms.edu/theatre).

## Just what is Phi Theta Kappa? a closer look at the organization

#### GRANT EDGER

*Chieftain Staff*

Many students know about Phi Theta Kappa, the honors society for community college students looking to gain experience, improve their leadership skills and have networking opportunities as well as the financial benefits of scholarships for PTK members.

ICC's Fulton Campus PTK adviser Makaela Salmon provided a closer look at the unique opportunities that PTK membership offers to students as well as how being a member of PTK affected her own college journey.

Every year, both the Fulton and Tupelo chapters of PTK complete two projects, one is research-based and known as "Honors in Action" that typically focuses on advocating for and educating about a general issue. "Our research-based project centers around a theme, we pick our theme and our research question, and we dive into that topic and come up with an action to address it," Salmon said.

The other is community-service based which is simply referenced as the "College Project" which focuses on providing a service at ICC with the help of school administration. Each chapter's officer team (PTK student leadership group) works on their projects throughout the summer into the fall semester.

"With the community service-based project, which we call "College Project," it has to be on



PHI THETA KAPPA  
HONOR SOCIETY

campus/location and has to be some kind of service-related event where we're promoting something from the college or providing a service or anything like that," Salmon said.

As an example, for their Honors in Action project, the Fulton chapter decided to focus on incarcerated juveniles in the hope that their research into various resources and programs could be useful to those trying to reintegrate themselves into society. We did research into that and based on that, our students decided they wanted to create a reference guide of different organizations and businesses that could potentially be helpful for reintegration," Salmon explained.

For the chapter's on-campus project, they decided to focus on educating students about neurodivergence through a community mural event at the Crane Pavilion. "We wanted to educate people as to what neurodivergence was because a lot of students had never heard of that before or had never heard that term," Salmon said.

PTK does not require students to work on either project to maintain membership, only that they pay their initial membership fee and maintain their GPA, although additional opportunities are available to gain experience and improve leadership skills, such as the scholarship workshop hosted once a semester. "To be a member, you just have to pay your fee and maintain your GPA," Salmon explained.

To with the experience PTK offers at ICC, there are also multiple opportunities to travel to local and national conferences for competition and to learn from speakers across the nation. Among these conferences is the annual "PTK Catalyst," the organization's largest conference of the year, which will be in Kansas City in early April.

"It's always a great experience for our students because they always meet people from across the state or from Louisiana if they're at a regional event or if they go to Catalyst, they're meeting people from all over (the country)."

Being a PTK member also opens the door to a multitude of scholarships, some offered directly from the university for being a Phi Theta Kappa member and others that come from the PTK organization.

"Even though we have a \$115 membership fee, it's a drop in the bucket compared to the scholarship money (PTK members) can get," Salmon noted.



## Want To Know More?

### FULTON CAMPUS

Information on	Contact
Academic Honors.....	Admissions
Activities Calendar .....	V.P. of Student Services
Admissions/Records .....	Admissions
Advanced Placement .....	V.P. of Instructional Services
Athletics .....	Athletic Director
Band .....	Band Director
Books/Supplies .....	Bookstore
Career Planning .....	Adviser/Advising Center
Car Registration Decals .....	Campus Police
Change of Adviser/Major .....	Advising Center
Change in Curriculum .....	Adviser/Student Affairs
Counseling .....	Student Affairs
Counseling (Personal).....	V.P. of Student Services
Course Placement.....	V.P. of Instructional Services
Evaluation of Credits .....	Admissions
Examinations .....	Instructor
Faculty Office Hours .....	Instructor
Graduation Req.....	Admissions
Housing .....	Director of Housing
I.D. Cards .....	Library
Intramurals/Activities .....	Coor. of Student Activities
Library .....	Director of Libraries
Log-Ins/PINs .....	TIS Help Desk
Parking .....	Campus Police
Part-Time Jobs .....	Student Affairs
Placement Testing.....	Student Affairs
Publicity/Publications .....	Community Relations
Registration .....	Admissions
Schedule Changes .....	Adviser
Schedule Planning .....	Adviser
Scholarships .....	Financial Aid
Student Aid/Work Study .....	Financial Aid
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Summer School.....	Coor. of Student Activities
	V.P. of Instructional Services
Testing (Career).....	Career Center
Transcripts .....	Admissions
Tuition, Fees, Deferrals .....	Business office
Use of Campus Property .....	V.P. of Student Services
Veterans Affairs .....	Financial Aid

### TUPELO CAMPUS

Admissions/Records .....	Student Affairs
Advanced Placement Credit ..	VP, Instructional Services
Books and Supplies .....	Bookstore
Career Planning.....	Adviser/Career Center
Car Registration/Decals .....	Campus Police
Counseling .....	Student Affairs
Evaluation of Credits.....	Admissions
I.D. Cards .....	Library
Job Placement.....	Career Center
Library .....	Library
Log-Ins/PINs .....	TIS Help Desk
Parking .....	Campus Police
Registration/Early-Reg .....	Student Affairs
Schedule Planning .....	Student Affairs
Scholarships .....	Financial Aid
Student Activities .....	Coor. of Student Activities
Student Aid.....	Financial Aid
Student Government .....	Coor. of Student Activities
Transcripts .....	Student Affairs
Tuition and Fees.....	Business office
Veterans Affairs .....	Financial Aid

### BELDEN CENTER

Adult Ed./High School Equivalency .....	Audra Perry
Career Education.....	Dylan Baldwin
Continuing Education .....	Josh Gammill
WIOA.....	Brad Gates
Workforce.....	Barry Emison

**Contact information available  
at [www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu)  
by clicking on the area of interest  
or by searching  
the college directory  
at the same location.**

## Nominate now for alum awards

### Staff Reports

Nominations are being accepted through Apr. 1 for Itawamba Community College's Alumnus of the Year, Athletic Hall of Fame, Distinguished Service Award and Young Alumnus of the Year. Those selected will be honored during homecoming activities this fall at the Fulton Campus.

Two honorees are selected for Athletic Hall of Fame awards. Honored are former athletes, coaches or individuals who have excelled or made major contributions to intercollegiate athletics while attending or employed by ICC. They must have been out of school at least 10 years.

Both the Distinguished Service and Young Alumnus of the Year awards are relatively new.

Forms are available at [www.iccms.edu/get-involved](http://www.iccms.edu/get-involved).

For more information, email Michael Upton, director of Advancement, at [maupton@iccms.edu](mailto:maupton@iccms.edu).



**The work of students from several Mississippi community colleges is on display at Itawamba Community College's W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center gallery through Apr. 4. ICC is hosting the MCCAIA State Community College Art Competition for the first time since 2016. - Courtesy photo**

## ICC hosts MCCAIA show for first time since 2016

### Staff Reports

The work of several Mississippi community colleges is currently on display at Itawamba Community College's W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center gallery at the Fulton Campus.

ICC is hosting the annual MCCAIA State Community College Art Competition for the first time since 2016.

Participants include students from Copiah-Lincoln, East Mississippi-Golden Triangle, East Mississippi-Scooba, Hinds-Raymond, Holmes-Ridgeland, ICC, Jones, Mississippi Gulf Coast, Northeast, Northwest-Senatobia and Southwest.

Award winners from ICC include **Dalton Brandon** of DenNIS, honorable mention, Ceramics, "The Smiths Dream;" **Isaiah Pannell** of Pontotoc, second, 2D

Design, "Self-Portrait Triptych;" **Noah Sartin** of Saltillo, second, Painting, "Shadowlands;" **Christopher Smith** of Shannon, honorable mention, Computer and Graphic Art, "Untitled;" **Sydney Ladd** of Tupelo, first, 3D Design, "Mouse Attack;" honorable mention, 3D Design, "Guitar;" third, 2D Design, "Contamination;" and **Bryan Martinez** of Tupelo, honorable mention, Computer and Graphic Art.

Additional ICC participants are **Raheim Blanchard** of Aberdeen; **Kylie Long** of Eldridge, Ala.; **Reja Anderson** of Eupora; **Emily Tibbs** of Fulton; **Ekka-leo Quarthey** of Jackson; **James Lesley**, **Rebekah Sheffield**, both of Mantachie; **Josie Warren** of Pontotoc; **Bryan Martinez** of Saltillo; **Callie Beasley**

of Tremont; and **Sarah Hippensteel** of Tupelo.

The awards ceremony and reception will be Apr. 4, the last day of the exhibit at 10 a.m. in the gallery of the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center.

The prizes for award winners include first place, \$100; second place, \$75; third place, \$50. Lillian Blackwell of Northwest Mississippi Community College received \$200 for Best in Show for "The Death of Creativity."

Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except when ICC is closed for holidays. Admission is free. For more information, contact Shawn Whittington, ICC fine arts instructor and gallery director, (662) 862-8301 or [eswhittington@iccms.edu](mailto:eswhittington@iccms.edu).

## ICC Sigma Kappa Delta inducts new members

### Staff Reports

Several Itawamba Community College students were formally inducted into Sigma Kappa Delta during the 2024 fall semester.

They include

**Aberdeen** – Dawsen Grimes;  
**Amory** – William Hannon, Christopher Hitt, Shana McCullar, Elizabeth Monaghan;

**Baldwyn** – Andrea Yielding;  
**Belden** – Marissa Dedeaux, Keila Figueroa, Karastan Gamble;

**Bruce** – Lily Tutor;  
**Calhoun City** – Bently Ragon;  
**Columbus** – Leah Elliott;

**Ecu** – Gracie Corley, Allie Hamilton;

**Fulton** – Lillie Adams, Lisa Bauer, Olivia Cantrell, Allyson Deaton, Maria Garcia, Avery Hillhouse, Steven Johnson, Summer Morgan;

**Golden** – Carissa Rogers;  
**Guntown** – Alexis Graham, Samuel Higgins, Brannan Newell, Donovan Peeks, Kendal Stacks, Hannah Vance;

**Hamilton, Ala.** – Osbaldo Gaspar-Juan;

**Hamilton** – Kaytlynn Brown, Kaisyn Elfring;

**Houlka** – Abella Coleman, Mary Fauver, Ryleigh McVay;

**Houston** – Maddox Clouse, Kimberly Peach, Taylor Pulphus;

**Iuka** – Timothy Richardson;



**Manacor Balearic Islands, Spain** – Joan Ramis Pascual;

**Mantachie** – Abby Grissom, Jordan Landry, Christina Lindley;

**Marietta** – Shely Baxter, Anna Bradley;

**Mooreville** – Tammy Oswalt;

**Myrtle** – Isabella Childers;

**Nettleton** – Latasj Harries, Leah Langford;

**New Albany** – Christiana Rowan;

**Okolona** – Mary Hays;

**Olive Branch** – Lauren Lee;

**Pontotoc** – Addison Clements, Jamaila Cummings, Brandasia Ivy, Tanner McCord, Abigail Warren, Anna Wilkinson;

**Randolph** – Saragrace Dillard;

**Red Bay, Ala.** – Jaycee Vinson;

**Saltillo** – Earline Brown, Taylor Johnson, Callie Keokominh, Chloe Lackey, Angelica Nail, Gabrielle Stewart;

**Shannon** – Samira Gates;

**Smithville** – Sydney Calhoun,

Harley Hatley, Madelin Luker, Annabelle Streets;

**Steens** – Kathryn Freeman;

**Tremont** – Stephanie Hill;

**Tupelo** – Adrianna Betancourt, Elijah Bogan, Alla Bundy, Chloe Caver, Troy Clements, Carilee Collins, Giselle Hernandez, Isabella Hodnett, Montana Hooper, Alandria Kennedy, Haylie Kirksey, Brandy Murphy, Gabrielle Pearce, Ashlyn Powell, Victor Salgado, Kyrus Scott, Justin Simmons, Kaitlyn Slagle, James Tallent, Landree Tidwell, Ava Vanlandingham, Sennett Watkins;

**Vardaman** – Lesley Hernandez, Alaysha Hubbard;

**Weir** – Markevious Hardin; and

**Woodland** – Nicolas Moreno.

Sigma Kappa Delta is the English Honor Society for two-year colleges. Members have the opportunity to share their love of literature and linguistics with like-minded peers, participate in rewarding activities and be recognized for their accomplishments. They may also apply for one or more of the society's numerous awards and scholarships. Sponsors are Anna Britt-Begnaud and Anna Daher.



# Wellness Week

March 24-27

*Preview of Events*

*Healing  
Nature Walk*

*Wellness Bags*

*Scream It Out*

*Color Dash*

*Kindness ROCKS!*

*Field Day*

*Pull-Up/Push-Up  
Competition*

*DIY Trail Mix*

*Scavenger Hunt*

*Pickleball  
Tournament*

*and many more!*

## Wellness Week... It's all about YOU!

**KENNA GRANT**  
*Chieftain Staff*

All members of the Itawamba Community College family will have an opportunity to enhance both their physical and mental health with a week full of activities beginning today.

"Wellness Week is an annual event that highlights all aspects of personal health, be it physical, mental, social, spiritual or just personal well-being," said Michelle Pruitt, coordinator of ICC's Fitness Center.

With various activities and social events located at all ICC locations (Fulton, Tupelo and Belden), students and staff are offered the opportunity to participate in these activities to improve their overall wellbeing.

In addition to health benefits, students and staff are offered some respite from the daily grind of college life. According to Pruitt, the activities can result in participants' learning new techniques to relieve stress and renewing their mind and body while doing so.

During the pandemic, Wellness Week began as a tool to help students and staff maintain their overall wellbeing during the stress and social isolation, Pruitt noted. With recognizable benefits, she said that Wellness Week continues each year as well as Mental Health Awareness week.

Wellness Week extends from today through Thursday.

The activities include

### **MARCH 24**

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - DIY Trail Mix, Tupelo Campus, Academic and Student Center Lobby

11 a.m. - Kindness Rocks, Fulton Campus, Student Activities Center

11 a.m.-noon - Grab and Go Wellness Bag and DIY Trail Mix, Belden Center, Training Center Lobby

1 p.m. - Healing Nature Walk, Fulton Campus starts at Crane Pavilion

All Day - Scavenger Hunt, Fulton Campus, starts at the Library

2:30 p.m. - Color Dash, Fulton Campus, starts at stop sign by Davis Event Center

6 p.m. - Mixxed Fit, Fulton Campus, Crane Pavilion

7:07 p.m. - BSU

### **MARCH 25**

5:15 p.m. - Morning Motivational Spin, Fulton Campus, Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center 231

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Grab and Go Wellness Bags, Tupelo Campus, Academic and Student Center

11 a.m.-noon - Grab and Go Wellness Bag/DIY Trail Mix, Belden Center, Training Center Lobby

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Aromatherapy Station with Angie, Tupelo Campus, Academic and Student Center

1 p.m. - Scream It Out!, Fulton Campus, Library

All day - Scavenger Hunt, Fulton, Tupelo and Belden, starts at the Library

3 p.m. - Field Day, Fulton Campus, Band Practice Field

7 p.m. - Pickleball Tournament, Fulton Campus, Pickleball Courts

### **MARCH 26**

7:30 a.m.-9 a.m. - Self-Talk Wednesday, Health Science Education Center, Tupelo Campus

9:30-11 a.m. - Self Talk Wednesday, Academic and Student Center, Tupelo Campus

1-4 p.m. - Wear Your Wellness, Fulton Campus Library

1 p.m. - Outdoor Beginner Pilates, Crane Pavilion, Fulton Campus

2:30 p.m. - Krista's High Energy Spin, Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center 231

All Day - Scavenger Hunt, Fulton, Tupelo, Belden, starts at the Library

6 p.m. - College Worship, Cypress Pavilion, Fulton Campus

### **MARCH 27**

11 a.m. - Have a SMOOTH Day with JUVA, Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center, Fulton Campus

1:30 p.m. - Pull-Up/Push Up Competition, Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center

All Day - Scavenger Hunt, Fulton, Tupelo, Belden, starts at the Library



## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

### MARCH 24

Wellness Week

### MARCH 26

SGA Officer Elections

Tupelo Campus 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Mississippi State University Visit

Fulton - David C. Cole Student Services

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Humanities Club

Career Speaker Series

Leslie East Springfield

Fulton - Boggs Humanities Bldg. 206

12:15 p.m.

### MARCH 27, 28

"A Midsummer Night's Dream"

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

Times vary

### MARCH 31

PTK-Fulton Chapter Meeting

John S. Crubaugh Education Building 102

12:15 p.m.

STEM Club: Engineers Without Borders

Fulton Campus STEM Lounge

1 p.m.

### APRIL 1

ICC Small Ensembles Concert

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts

Center Auditorium

7 p.m.

### APRIL 2

Indians Got Talent

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

7 p.m.

### APRIL 8

ICC Choir and Chamber Concert

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts

Center Auditorium

7 p.m.

### APRIL 9

PTK-Tupelo Chapter Meeting

Student Support Center

Presentation Room

12:15 p.m.

Humanities Club Meeting

Career Spotlight Series

Fulton - Boggs Humanities Building

12:15 p.m.

### APRIL 17

ICC Concert Bands Spring Performance

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

7 p.m.

### APRIL 18/21

Good Friday and Good Monday

Holidays for Students/Employees

### APRIL 27

ICC Faculty Recital Series

with Taylor Burks, Jacob Roland

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

2 p.m.

### APRIL 28

Student Awards of Distinction Ceremony

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

6 p.m.

### APRIL 29

ICC Faculty Recital Series

Dr. Cass Patrick

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

7 p.m.

### MAY 1

CenterStage Spring Showcase

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

7 p.m.

### MAY 5

ICC Faculty Recital Series

Christy Griffith, Ryan Todd

Fulton - W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center

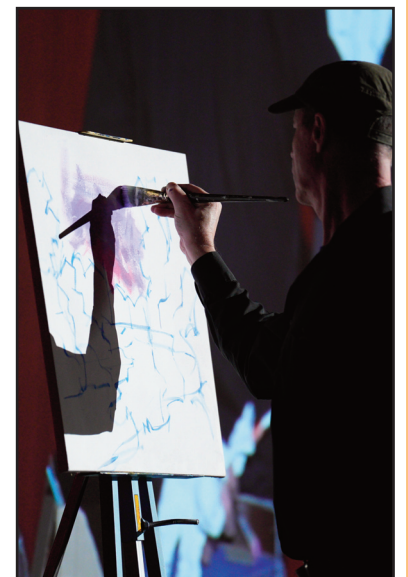
7 p.m.

### MAY 16

Commencement

For more information  
[www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu)  
Activities Calendar

A night to remember at ICC



### Evening of the Arts

Itawamba Community College celebrates its fine arts area with a special night, Mar. 6, in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Center. Included were theatre, wind and steel drum ensembles, live art demonstration and exhibit, CenterStage, Jazz Band and Chamber Singers as well as demonstration of the Steinway and Sons Spirio Piano. PryorMorrow was a presenting sponsor.





FYI

MAKE A NOTE OF IT

## JUST A REMINDER...

### Review lockdown procedures

ICC's faculty, staff and students are urged to re-view campus lockdown procedures.

"The procedures are meant to be very simple because at the point of a lockdown, the major concern is the safety of all of the individuals in the campus community," said Dr. Brad Boggs, vice president of student services.

Notifications will be communicated via ICC ALERT, email and the Emergency Information Web page.

Upon notification of campus lockdown, everyone must react immediately.

The procedures include

- 1) Lock all doors and windows.
- 2) Close all blinds.
- 3) Turn off lights.
- 4) Use room furnishings to barricade doors and as protection.
- 5) Everyone should sit on the floor, away from doors and windows.
- 6) Make no noise.
- 7) Remain in lockdown until it is cleared with a notice via ICC ALERT or the police/administrator gives te ALL CLEAR code.

In addition, these are procedures in the event of severe weather conditions or evacuation.

Individuals should check ICC's website, [www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu), for information. It's located under Campus Safety on the home page.

## Sign up for ICC ALERT

ICC provides a mass notification system called ICC ALERT.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in the free service.

ICC ALERT has been utilized for inclement weather situations when classes and offices were closed due to snow and icing conditions and when storms threatened

the area.

To sign up to receive emergency messages through ICC ALERT: 1) Log on to the myTribe portal using your name and password; 2) Click ICC ALERT system in the link section on the bottom right; 3) Log in with your same username and password as myTribe to add/update your information.

For assistance with technical issues, contact the TIS Help Desk at (662) 862-8295 or via email at [helpdesk@iccms.edu](mailto:helpdesk@iccms.edu).

## Litter-free

Everyone is reminded to use trash receptacles for litter. It's up to all of us to show our pride by ensuring that all three locations are litter-free.

## No noise

Unnecessary noise is banned at Itawamba Community College, including loud music, yelling and screaming.

Students who are found guilty of noise violations will be fined, and the fine will double with each successive violation.

## Campus Police

ICC-Belden...662.687.2752  
ICC-Fulton...662.687.2750  
ICC-Tupelo...662.687.2751

For more information  
about ICC emergency  
procedures...  
[www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu)



## Unity

ICC athletic adviser Dr. Katerria Grice presents the Unity program in celebration of Black History Month Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m. at the Tupelo Campus and again at 6 p.m. on the Fulton Campus.

# Both PTK chapters receive multiple regional awards

### Staff Reports

Both the Beta Tau Sigma (Tupelo) and Upsilon Sigma (Fulton) chapters of Phi Theta Kappa of Itawamba Community College received multiple awards at the organization's Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Conference, Mar. 6-7, at the University of Mississippi.

#### BOTH CHAPTERS

Both chapters were awarded five-star status, for which chapters must fulfill the following stars or milestones within a calendar year: Reach, Network, Engage, Lead and Discover, according to Makaela Salmon, adviser for the Upsilon Sigma chapter.

#### BETA TAU SIGMA

Beta Tau Sigma's awards included Jenny Bowers, Tupelo Campus adviser, Horizon award; Honors in Action Theme 8 award and Allyson Johnson of Nettleton, Golden Key. Bowers said that in the summer, advisers meet with officers and review the themes in the Honors Program

Guide. "We make a list of topics that students are interested in and then we vote. Folklore, Fables, and Fairy Tales was selected. It centered around the traditional stories of the Chickasaw, who inhabited our area before us. We gave a presentation in November, and the Chickasaw Heritage Tree that we made is still on display in the Academic and Student Center on the Tupelo Campus."

#### UPSILON SIGMA

Upsilon Sigma's awards included Distinguished Chapter Officer award, Wesley May of Pontotoc; Scarlett Garrison of Tremont, Golden Key; Honors in Action Theme 5 Award; Top 10 Honors in Action Project Award (top 10 scoring regardless of theme placement) and Most Distinguished Chapter Finalist, which is the one with the highest combined score of Honors in Action and College Project scores. Salmon said that the Honors Study Topic for Upsilon Sigma

was The Power of Stories. "Within this topic, eight themes were provided from which students could select. Upsilon Sigma chose to study Theme 5: Representation through Stories. Our officer team decided to focus our project on the reintegration of incarcerated juveniles, specifically in Mississippi. After researching the topic, they created a resource guide of services, educational opportunities and organizations that may be of assistance to the incarcerated juveniles reintegrating into society. Their desire was for these individuals to receive this resource guide and utilize it for their benefit."

May is vice president of scholarship for Upsilon Sigma as well as their regional reporter for the MS/LA regional officer team. Other college involvement includes STEM Club president, STEM tutor for ICC Instructional Support, pianist for Cen-

terStage and team member for Community College Innovation.

#### WINNERS ADVANCE

The winners of the regional awards will advance to national competition and will be announced at the annual Catalyst convention, April 3-5, in Kansas City, Mo.

Sponsors in addition to Bowers and Salmon include Allyson Cummings of Blue Springs, Beta Tau Sigma; and Anna Catherine Daher of Fulton and Riley Morgan of Tupelo, Upsilon Sigma.

#### WHAT IS PTK?

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for the two-year college. Its hallmarks are leadership, scholarship, fellowship and service, which are the criteria for selection as recipient of the Golden Key award. Members are afforded opportunities for personal and professional growth and to provide service to the community and society at-large.

# ICC selects winners of creative writing awards

### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College has selected winners of its creative writing competition, and they will be honored during Sigma Kappa Delta's spring induction ceremony on the Fulton Campus.

They include

**Calhoun City** - Brady Edington, "Why Modern America is Falling," second, creative Nonfiction;

**McCool** - Jalyynn Black, "The Voice That Wouldn't Fade," second, Short-Fiction Prose;

**Mooreville** - Sharlee Shumpert, "I Am Ambitious," second, Poetry; Mary Puckett, "The Combination of Insanity and Intellect in the Writings of Edgar



Allen Poe," first, Literary Critical Essay;

**Smithville** - Sara Davis, "Preacher Man," first, Poetry;

**Tupelo** - Emma Kate Smith, "Somewhere Between Yesterday and a Dream," first, Short Fiction Prose; and Mariana Lazcano, "A Place Nothing Like America;"

first, Creative Nonfiction.

Their work will be entered into the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association competition; and winners were to be notified last week.

State-level winners will receive certificates and a copy of Writer, which publishes the student winners, at the in person MCCCWA conference, Apr. 11 at the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez Campus in the W.L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room.

At the conference, the statewide first, second and third-place winners will receive monetary prizes of \$100, \$60 and \$40 respectively.

ICC...The BEST!





Itawamba Community College is an open admission, comprehensive, publicly supported two-year institution primarily serving Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc counties, while also being responsive to the instructional and economic development needs of the region.

Itawamba Community College fulfills its mission through 1) College-parallel, technical and career programs to prepare students to transfer or enter the workforce; 2) Continuing education and workforce pathways for individuals striving for professional growth or personal enrichment; 3) Strategic partnerships to provide student opportunities, meet business and industry needs and promote economic development; 4) Adult education programs committed to increasing the literacy level of the adult population, providing self-improvement opportunities, workforce readiness and/or high school equivalency; 5) Resources, including financial, physical and technological to advance educational purpose as well as traditional and online instructional services, student support services and business management; 6) Recruitment and employment of qualified personnel as well as provide ongoing opportunities for leadership growth and success in educational, career and personal goals.

Candidates for admission to academic and career education programs may be admitted by diploma - students are required to present an official transcript from a high school accredited by the appropriate state or regional accreditation association; by completing the appropriate number of Carnegie units; by successfully completing an acceptable high school equivalency test - students are required to have an official copy of the high school equivalency transcript mailed to the Director of Admissions; by advanced standing (college transfer students). Students graduating without a regular diploma (Occupational Diploma or Special Education Diploma) must successfully complete an acceptable high school equivalency test or qualify under a Mississippi Ability to Benefit State Process in order to be eligible for admission to Itawamba Community College. Some career education programs may have selective criteria for admission.

Itawamba Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The College strictly prohibits discrimination in its educational programs and activities, employment practices and admissions processes on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ethnicity, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran or other status protected by applicable law. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services, 602 West Hill Street, Fulton, MS 38843, 662.862.8271 or email TitleIXCoordinator@iccms.edu.

In compliance with Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Itawamba Community College makes available its curricular and extracurricular programs and its facilities to every qualified person regardless of race, sex, color, creed, national origin or disability.

Itawamba Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Community Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.670.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Itawamba Community College.

**[www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu)**  
**662.862.8000**

**Apply NOW  
for health sciences**

*Staff Reports*

Applications are currently being accepted for 11 health science programs, which begin in August at Itawamba Community College.

They include Associate Degree Nursing, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, EMS Paramedic, Health Information Technology, Practical Nursing (August class), Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant Technology, Public Health Technology, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care Technology and Surgical Technology.

The deadline to apply is May 1.

For more information about program requirements, access ICC's website at [www.iccms.edu](http://www.iccms.edu) or call (662) 620-5239.



**#thebeststartthere**



# Presenting...

## ICC's 2025 Most Beautiful



Emma Hill of New Albany, center, was selected Itawamba Community College's Most Beautiful 2025 at the conclusion of the recent pageant at the Fulton Campus. Alternates, from left, include Lauren South of Fulton, third; Natalie Nix of Florence, Ala., second; Hill; Laney Howell of Aberdeen, 2024 Most Beautiful; Amelia Tooley of Belmont, first; and Allie Grace Kirkland of Corinth, fourth. All winners receive a scholarship presented by the Itawamba Community College Foundation, Inc. The event was sponsored by ICC's The Global Experience. - Photo credit, Natalie Ryals

**Making the right contacts**  
Students in ICC's Construction Management and Forestry Technology programs participated in a career fair recently. They had the opportunity to interact with future employers as well as to learn more about their chosen professions.



## Career pathway opportunities begin at Belden

Staff Reports

Registration is underway at Itawamba Community College for two career pathway programs that will begin this month at the Belden Center.

They include Certified Nursing Assistant, which meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-9 p.m. from March 24-May 38, prepares participants to take the exam to become a CNA. Upon successful completion of the program and examination, nursing assistants can find employment with nursing homes, medical centers, home healthcare providers and clinics. The cost is \$526, which include the required Board License Examination fee.

Food Management Certification will meet Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m., March 24-April 18. During the hands-on, four-week class, students will learn the essential skills needed to thrive in the restaurant and hospitality industry. Included in the curriculum are both the ServSafe® Food Manager and Alcohol certifications, menu planning preparation, assistance with and execution of catered events, résumé/interview skills and front- and back-of-the-house operations. Cost is \$460, but tuition assistance and scholarships are available for qualified applicants.

For more information, email [pathways@iccms.edu](mailto:pathways@iccms.edu) or call (662) 407-1537.

## Exceptional opportunity for 16-24 year-olds

### Registration continues for Gateway program

Registration is continuing for the Gateway program at Itawamba Community College.

The program is designed to serve disadvantaged students between the ages of 16-24, not currently enrolled in school and/or unemployed. Goals are to complete the essential job skills training, obtain a high school equivalency diploma if needed, participate in

a paid work experience opportunity, enroll in college or in an occupational or advanced training program, join the military or become employed. All unemployed participants will be placed in a paid work experience internship once the student completes the Essential Job Skills training.

According to WIOA Youth Coordinator Sanders Bell, students can start

on Monday and possibly have a job by Friday.

Enrollments are currently being accepted for participants from all of ICC's supporting counties, including Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe and Pontotoc. Open enrollment for classes in the one-week program begins Mondays at 9 a.m. at the ICC WIN Job Centers.

For more information, call (662) 407-1207 or email [gateway@iccms.edu](mailto:gateway@iccms.edu).

The program is funded by the Mississippi Partnership Workforce Development Board and the Three Rivers Planning and Development District, Inc.



# ICC Athletics on the Move

## CAMPUS SPORTS

CHIEFTAIN/Page 12.....March 24, 2025



## Lady Indians dominate to claim Region 23 championship

### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's women's basketball team is headed to the NJCAA National Tournament after an 83-65 victory over Mississippi Delta Community college in the Region 23 Championship at Pearl River Community College.

From the opening tip, ICC took control, jumping out to a 15-5 lead in the first quarter. By halftime, the Lady Indians had built a commanding 43-17 advantage, fueled by Jestiny Dixon's 21 points in the first half before finishing with a career-high 30.

The Lady Indians overpowered Mississippi Delta on the glass, outrebounding the Lady Trojans, 52-21 and converting those extra opportunities into a 21-4 edge in second chance points. ICC's bench also made a significant impact, outscoring Delta's reserves 26-7.

Asia Stafford recorded a career-high 12 points and added a career-best



ICC's women's basketball coach Robin Porter, left, and her predecessor Nanci Gray celebrate with the Region 23 trophy!

nine rebounds. D'Naylah Williams posted a double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Tootie Lockett orchestrated the offense with a career-best 12 assists while also contributing five points and six rebounds.

Janiah Caples led the Lady Trojans with 26 points in the loss.

With the victory, ICC punched its ticket to the NJCAA National Tournament in Casper, Wyoming, marking the first appearance since 2-16 and the program's fifth regional championship.

The Lady Indians entered the Region 23 Tournament as the No. 2 seed, and they opened postseason play with a 66-43 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community college, 69-68, in an overtime thriller before knocking off top-seeded No. 14 Pearl River Community college, 71-64, in the semifinals.

Now the Lady Indians look ahead to Casper, where they will compete for a national title.

## ICC softball Indians drop to 21 in latest poll

### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's Indians softball team has fallen to No. 21 in this week's Division II Softball Top 25 rankings, according to an announcement by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) today.

Last week, the Indians earned a sweep over Holmes Community College with a 9-1 run-rule victory in game one and a 4-3 walk-off win in game two but finished the week dropping a doubleheader at East Central with a 2-0 (game one) and 6-0 (game two) losses.

Under the direction of first-year head coach Carson Owens, the Indians currently have a 21-8 overall record and are 6-2 in MACCC play.

Maddie Porter (Ocean Springs) currently leads ICC with a .400 batting average followed by AB Marlar (Kossuth) with .384 and Taylar Shands (Jackson, Tenn.), .351.

Currently, other team leaders include Shands with nine home runs; and Marlar, 30 runs batted in.

Shands added 25 RBI, and Ellis Duhon (Madison), 23.



# #RollTribe



## Tribe talk

**BILLY MILLENDER**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Sports have long been more than just a pastime or a competition between elite athletes. They have played a crucial role in shaping societies, breaking down barriers and fostering unity.

From community playgrounds to grand Olympic arenas, sports have enabled people to come together, learn valuable life skills and drive social change. At Itawamba Community College, the impact of sports on society is profound, influencing everything from cultural integration to economic development and even mental and physical well-being.

One of the most significant ways sports have improved society is by bringing people together, regardless of race, nationality or social background.

At the local level, sports have been instrumental in breaking down racial and social divides, integrating African American athletes in mainstream professional leagues in the United States.

More recently, sports figures have used their platforms to address social justice issues, further solidifying the role of sports as a force for positive change.

The physical benefits of sports are well-documented. Regular participation in sports and physical activities helps combat obesity, cardiovascular diseases and mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety. Governments and health organizations worldwide promote sports to improve public health, reduce medical costs and enhance the overall quality of life.

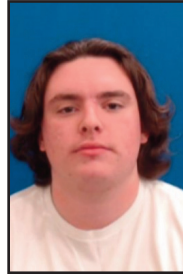
Sports have also played a therapeutic role in helping individuals and communities recover from adversity. Adaptive sports programs for disabled individuals, rehabilitation sports for veterans and recreational activities for those dealing with trauma showcase the healing power of sports. Unsurprisingly, nations invest heavily in promoting physical education in schools, understanding that an active society is healthier and more productive.

The sports industry is a major contributor to global and local economies, generating billions of dollars annually. The industry provides employment opportunities for millions, from ticket sales and merchandise to job creation in event management, broadcasting and coaching. Cities that host major sporting events often experience economic booms with increased tourism, infrastructure development and international exposure.

Further, sports have been a pathway for social mobility, offering individuals from underprivileged backgrounds a chance to rise above their circumstances. Using ICC as an example, many athletes come from humble beginnings or just trying to find somewhere that will give them a shot in athletics, and through dedication and talent, achieve financial stability and inspire others in their communities to pursue their dreams. Sports instill essential life skills such as discipline, teamwork, perseverance and leadership. Young athletes learn the importance of setting goals, managing failure and working collaboratively, which are qualities that translate into success in various professional and personal endeavors. Many successful entrepreneurs, political leaders and influencers attribute their work ethic and resilience to their early experiences in sports.

Moreover, sports provide an alternative to negative influences such as crime, drug abuse and violence. Youth engagement in sports has been linked to lower crime rates and higher economic achievement, reinforcing its role as a powerful tool for community development and social stability.

Sports heroes become symbols of hope and perseverance, encouraging generations to dream big and work hard. Sports are more than just games; they catalyze societal growth, personal development and global unity. Whether through health benefits, economic opportunities or breaking down social barriers, sports profoundly improve our world. As society evolves, the role of sports remains steadfast, serving as a reminder that we can create a stronger and more united world through competition, teamwork and fair play. **RollTribe!**



## ICC men's basketball earns multiple postseason honors

### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's men's basketball capped off an impressive 2024-25 season with several players earning postseason accolades.

#### **Dent, Bridges recognized by MACCC**

AJ Dent and Marcel Bridges were named to the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference all-conference teams. Dent secured First Team All-MACCC honors after leading the Indians with 15.1 points and 7.8 rebounds per game while shooting an impressive 60.7 percent from the field. He delivered a career-best performance in ICC's 92-79 win over then-No. 7 Jones on Jan. 13 and was named MACCC Men's Basketball Player of the Week twice, also earning NJCAA D1 Men's Basketball Player of the Week, Nov. 27.

Bridges earned All-MACCC Honorable Mention after averaging 10.5

points per game on 49.6 percent shooting. He also recorded 155 total rebounds and 16 assists during his sophomore season, including a stand-out 27-point performance in ICC's 73-65 win over Coahoma on Jan. 27.

#### **Clark named to Region 23 All-Tournament Team**

Sophomore Kam Clark was named to the NJCAA Region 23 Men's Basketball All-Tournament Team following his strong performances in the postseason.

Clark posted 11 points in ICC's 92-58 win over Mississippi Delta and scored 19 in the 81-76 semifinal loss to Pearl River. Over two games, he contributed 15 rebounds, five blocks and an assist while making a significant defensive impact.

The Indians finished the 2024-25 season with a 25-6 overall record, an 11-3 mark in MACCC play and a trip to the NJCAA Region 23 semifinals.

## Multiple postseason honors highlight Lady Indians season

### Staff Reports

Itawamba Community College's women's basketball program had a remarkable showing this Season, highlighted by numerous postseason honors.

#### **Dixon, Lockett earn first-team all-conference honors**

Jestiny Dixon and Tootie Lockett were named to the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference Women's Basketball First Team All-Conference.

Dixon, who led the Lady Indians with 14.3 points per game (fifth in the MACCC), was also named Most Valuable Player of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament after an impressive 30-point performance in the championship win over Mississippi Delta.

Lockett, who averaged 12.7 points per game, was also recognized as MACCC Women's Basketball Freshman of the Year after a stellar season, which included a career-high 22 points against East Central.

#### **Three Lady Indians named to All-Tournament team**

Dixon, along with Asia Stafford and D'Nayah Williams earned spots on the NJCAA Region 23 Women's Basketball All-Tournament team.

Stafford contributed significantly on the boards with 19 rebounds over three games and posted 12 points and nine rebounds in the championship win.

Williams delivered a double-double performance with 15 points and 10 rebounds in the title game while anchoring ICC's defense.

#### **Coach Robin Porter named Region 23 Coach of the Year**

In her sixth season, head Lady Indians basketball coach guided the Lady Indians to a 25-6 overall record and a 12-2 mark in conference play, securing ICC's first NJCAA Region Tournament title since 2015-16.

Under her leadership, ICC averaged 67 points per game, ranking fourth in the MACCC. Her outstanding efforts earned her the 2025 Region 23 Women's Basketball Coach of the Year award.

## CHOP DAY '25 April 24

## Itawamba Community College Sports...

ON THE SCHEDULE

### BASEBALL

3.26	Northeast	3/5 p.m.
3.29	@Co-Lin	2/5 p.m.
4.1	@Coahoma	12/3 p.m.
4.5	Pearl River	2/5 p.m.
4.9	East Miss.	2/5 p.m.
4.12	@Southwest	2/5 p.m.
4.18	Hinds	2/5 p.m.
4.23	@Northwest	3/6 p.m.
4.26	@Meridian	2/5p.m.
4.29	Miss. Delta	2/5 p.m.

### SOFTBALL

3.25	@Northeast	4/6 p.m.
3.29	Co-Lin	12/2 p.m.
4.2	Coahoma	2/4 p.m.
4.5	@Pearl River	12/2 p.m.
4.8	@East Miss.	2/4 p.m.
4.12	Southwest	1/3 p.m.
4.15	@Wallace St.	2/4 p.m.
4.18	@Hinds	TBA
4.22	Northwest	2/4 p.m.
4.26	Meridian	

### TENNIS

3.28	@East Central	2 p.m.
3.31	Wallace St.	1 p.m.
4.1	@Southwest	2 p.m.

**For the most up-to-date schedules, LetsGoICC.com**

**Follow ICC athletics...LetsGoICC.com  
or on Twitter...@LetsGoICC**





Students selected for Itawamba Community College's Hall of Fame for 2024-25 include seated, from left, Marlee Hoing, Natalie Ryals, Rilee Maxwell, Jamailya Cummings, Jasmier Coleman; back, Yazmeen Alwaisi, Eric Gonzalez, Braiden Holcombe, Maddox Clouse, Wesley May, Kent Humphries and Allyson Johnson.

# Faculty, staff select 2024-25 ICC Hall of Fame

## Staff Reports

Twelve Itawamba Community College sophomores have been selected as members of its prestigious Hall of Fame for 2024-25.

They include Eric Gonzalez of Ecru; Maddox Clouse of Houston; Natalie Ryals of Kosciusko; Allyson Johnson, Rilee Maxwell, both of Nettleton; Jamailya Cummings, Marlee Elizabeth-Paige Hoing, Wesley A. May, all of Pontotoc; Yazmeen Alwaisi, Jasmier Coleman, both of Tupelo; Braiden Holcombe and Kent Humphries, both of Vina, Ala.

### YAZMEEN ALWAIISI

At ICC, Alwaisi is majoring in pre-law/general studies at ICC, where she is public relations and media officer for Phi Theta Kappa and secretary for the Student Government Association. A Middle College student, Alwaisi is a member of the National Honor Society, Middle College Ambassador and Northeast Mississippi Youth Foundation Historian at Tupelo High School, where she will graduate in May. Her other activities include free youth tutoring and local community service. Alwaisi plans to transfer to Ole Miss, where she will double major in economics and political science and subsequently enter law school. She is the daughter of Zamzam and Noman Alwaisi.

### MADDOX CLOUSE

Clouse is a member of Honors College, Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society and the STEM Club at ICC. His honors include the president's list and recipient of an internship opportunity with Mueller Industries, which was offered by ICC's School of STEM. He plans to transfer to Mississippi State University where he will work toward a Bachelor of Science degree in computer engineering. Clouse is a graduate of Houston High School, and his parents are Amy and Vince Clouse.

### JASMIER COLEMAN

At ICC where she is a psychology major, Coleman is an Indian Delegate,

Orientation Leader, vice president for both the Student Government Association and Women of Excellence and member of the Fashion Tribe, Phi Theta Kappa and Honors College. Her honors include Homecoming Freshman Maid (2023) and Homecoming Queen (2024). Coleman is a graduate of Pontotoc High School. Her activities are volunteer at churches and nursing homes, tutoring and Trading Post. Coleman plans to transfer to the University of Mississippi where she will continue work toward a degree in psychology. She is the daughter of Pondea Moore.

### JAMAILYA CUMMINGS

A graduate of South Pontotoc High School, Cummings is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta and National Honor Society and youth leader at ICC Wesley. She also serves as a tutor and works in the Admissions office on the Tupelo Campus. Her other activities include Sunday School teacher and youth leader at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Cummings plans to transfer to Mississippi State University to work toward a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She is the daughter of Ida Judon.

### ERIC GONZALEZ

An electrical technology major at ICC, Gonzalez is a graduate of North Pontotoc High School. He plans to become a full-time industrial electrician. He is the son of Jose Gonzalez.

### MARLEE ELIZABETH-PAIGE HOING

Hoing, a graduate of South Pontotoc High School, is an Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology major at ICC. Her activities include Indian Delegation, Indianette (dancer), Student Activities Board, Wesley Worship Leader, member of Phi Theta Kappa and class president of the Student Occupational Therapy Association. Hoing's honors include president's list and Academic Excellence scholarship. Her additional activities are volunteer at Night to Shine and Special Olympics and active member of Ellistown Baptist Church. Following her graduation

from ICC's OTA program and earning her certification, Hoing plans to seek a job in her chosen career, specializing in Handwriting Without Tears and Neuro-Developmental Treatment. She is the daughter of Melissa Hoing.

### BRAIDEN HOLCOMBE

A mechanical engineering major at ICC, Holcombe is a member of the Indian Delegation (vice president, 2024-25), Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta and STEM Club; Orientation Leader, Baptist Student Union lead team; Fashion Tribe executive and Instructional Support tutor. His other activities include DNOW volunteer. Holcombe plans to transfer to Mississippi State University where he will major in Industrial Technology: Maintenance and Manufacturing. He is the son of Misty and Clint Holcombe.

### KENT HUMPHRIES

Humphries, who is a graduate of Tremont High School, is a psychology major at ICC. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta, STEM Club, Film Club and the Humanities Club. His other activities include volunteering as a STEM tutor and at the Fulton Food Pantry. Humphries plans to transfer to Delta State University, where he will major in psychology and then enter medical school. He is the son of Jay and Jennifer Humphries.

### ALLYSON JOHNSON

Johnson, who is enrolled in ICC's Middle College, will graduate from Tupelo High School in May. Her ICC activities include Phi Theta Kappa vice president of leadership for the Beta Tau Sigma chapter; Tupelo Campus representative for the ICC President's Student Advisory Committee; member of both the STEM Club and Honors College and former Chickasaw County representative for the Tupelo Campus Student Government Association. She also participates in Taekwondo and the Tupelo Leo Club. Johnson plans to transfer to Mississippi State University to continue working on additional degrees (master's and doctorate) in computer engineering. She is the daughter of Calandra Denman.

### RILEE MAXWELL

At ICC, Maxwell's activities and honors include Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society, Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Students and Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society, Dean's and President's list and MORA essay scholarship recipient. She is a graduate of Itawamba Agricultural High School. An Associate Degree Nursing major, Maxwell has accepted a job at North Mississippi Medical Center – Gilmore (Amory) in labor and delivery and plans to further her education through The W and the University of North Alabama. She is the daughter of Cory and Brandi Maxwell.

### WESLEY MAY

May is majoring in engineering (pre-med) at ICC where his activities and honors include Phi Theta Kappa vice president of scholarship and Mississippi/Louisiana regional reporter, STEM Club president and tutor, Honors College and CenterStage pianist. He is a volunteer at Sanctuary Hospice House. May plans to transfer to the University of Mississippi where he will earn the bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering and subsequently enter the University of Mississippi Medical Center's School of Medicine. He is the son of Maggie Ellis and Adam May.

### NATALIE RYALS

Ryals, who is a graduate of Kosciusko High School, is president of the Student Government Association, Mirror (yearbook) editor, Fashion Tribe executive, game day crew photographer, Baptist Student Union lead team and a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Her other activities include intramural sports at ICC and member of the First Baptist Church of Kosciusko. She plans to transfer to Mississippi State University to work toward her degree in Communications. Her parents are Tracey and Brad Ryals.

They will be featured in the 2025 student yearbook, the Mirror.